Receipt date: 01/30/2007

## PATENT APPLICATION

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Norio TANAKA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 10/586,854

Filed: July 20, 2006 Docket No.: 128794

For: OPTICALLY CONTROLLED OPTICAL-PATH-SWITCHING-TYPE DATA
DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND DISTRIBUTION METHOD

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any vatent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application.
   An English language version of the relevant parts of the Japanese Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 2 4.
- In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 2 and 3.
  - 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 2.
- Reference <u>1</u> corresponds to reference <u>2</u>.

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7. An English-language translation of the relevant parts of one or more Japanese-language references is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 3 and 4.

Respectfully submitted,

James A Oliff Registration No. 27,075

David R. Kemeny Registration No. 57,241

JAO:DRK/kam

Date: January 30, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. Box 19928 Alexandria, Virginia 22320 Telephone: (703) 836-6400 DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461 Receipt date: 01/30/2007

Sheet 1 of 1 Form PTO-1449 ATTY DOCKET NO. US Dept. of Commerce APPLICATION NO. (REV. 1/06) PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE 128794 10/586,854 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary) APPLICANT(S) Norio TANAKA et al. FILING DATE GROUP July 20, 2006 2612 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite Initials Nο Document Number Date Name 6.529.301 BI 03/04/2003 WANG /MC/ FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite With With Initials No. Document Number Date Country English English Abstract Translation /MC/ 2 JP A 2001-119734 04/27/2001 JAPAN х x /MC/ 3 JP A 2003-324456 11/14/2003 JAPAN x x OTHER DOCUMENTS Examiner Cite (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.) Initials No. Ueno, I., et al. "Development of Optically Controlled Optical Switch," Light Alliance, Vol. 14, No. 11, pp. 26 - 29, /MC/ November 1, 2003.

Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance

DATE CONSIDERED

12/05/2009

/Michelle Connelly Cushwa/

and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

EXAMINER

Examiner: